

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 07621 261502Z

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ACTION EA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07621

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: KS FR PFOR

SUBJECT: FRANCO-KOREAN CONSULTATIONS

1. DURING KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER KIM TONG-CHO'S VISIT TO FRANCE HE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES (ONE TETE-A-TETE) AND A CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC AS WELL AS THE ECONOMIC CONVERSATIONS CONDUCTED PRIMARILY BY MINISTER CHANG YE-CHUN. THE PRINCIPAL POLITICAL CONVERSATION WAS ABOUT THE KOREAN PROBLEM BEFORE THE UN. ALTHOUGH THE ROK WISHED TO MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY WITH SOME ACTION FROM THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THEY UNDERSTOOD THE FRENCH REASONING THAT SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION WOULD PROBABLY RESULT MERELY IN A SINO-SOVIET QUARREL WHICH COULD ONLY HARM ROK INTERESTS. THE KOREANS ARGUED IN FAVOR OF THE REPLACEMENT OF THE UN COMMAND BY KOREAN AND US REPRESENTATIVES (THE COMMANDER OF US MILITARY FORCES IN KOREA) TO PARALLEL THE NORTH KOREAN AND PRC REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMUNIST SIDE. THE FRENCH EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DOUBTS THAT THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE OTHER SIDE. THE FRENCH EVEN THOUGHT--BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT EXPRESS TO THE KOREANS--THAT THE NORTH KOREANS MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SUCH AN APPROACH TO HAVE THE CHINESE RELIN-
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PAGE 02 PARIS 07621 261502Z

QUISH THEIR POSITION ON THE COMMISSION AND THEN CALL FOR

THE US NOT ONLY TO DO THE SAME, BUT ALSO WITHDRAW ALL ITS FORCES FROM KOREA.

2. THE KOREANS BELIEVED IT ESSENTIAL TO GET SOME UN SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION AS A RESULT OF THE UNGA RESOLUTION IN ORDER TO "FREEZE THE PROBLEM"--THAT IS, BLOCK ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THE UNGA. THE FRENCH ARGUED THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS CUSTOMARY FOR THE UNGA TO SUSPEND CONSIDERATION OF A MATTER ACTIVELY BEING CONSIDERED BY THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, THERE HAD BEEN MANY VIOLATIONS OF THIS "PRINCIPLE." THEY THEREFORE THOUGHT THAT THERE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A PROBLEM IN THE UNGA. IN ADDITION, THE FRENCH BELIEVE THAT THE UNGA PROBLEM WILL BE MORE ACUTE THIS YEAR THAN IT WAS LAST YEAR. THE FRENCH THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO HAVE SOUTH KOREA'S FRIENDS BEGIN NOW TO WORK WITH THE USSR AND PRC TO ATTEMPT TO FIND SOME COMPROMISE SOLUTION.
RUSH

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